

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A rate adaptive pacemaker has a measuring unit which interacts with a patient to determine a demand, a pacing rate controller connected to the measuring unit for controlling the pacing rate in response to the demand, and a pacing rate limiter connected to the pacing rate controller which upwardly limits the pacing rate so as to always maintain the energy supplied to the myocardium at a level which exceeds the energy consumed by the myocardium.